



Wessex
Learning Trust
We Learn Together!

No Smoking and No Vaping Policy

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Review Date: September 2024

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Wessex Learning Trust
No Smoking and No Vaping Policy

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees every three years.

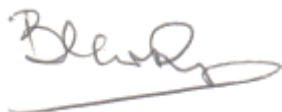


Signature:

Name: Mr Gavin Ball

Position: Chief Executive

Date: 05/01/22



Signature:

Name: Mr Brian Kirkup

Position: Chair of the Board

Date: 05/01/22

1.0 Introduction

1.1 All schools within the Wessex Learning Trust are smoke-free schools and since 1st July 2007 it has been illegal to smoke in a public place, including schools. The Trust recognises that smoking is a harmful and costly practice which poses risks not only to the smokers, but also to those exposed to second-hand smoke; and as such believes that as schools we have a role to play in working towards a smoke-free society, and in ensuring that all young people receive clear consistent messages about the dangers of smoking.

2.0 Aims

2.1 The aims of this policy are:

- To ensure that the Trust is a health promoting organisation.
- To put in place measures to protect staff, young people and visitors from the effects of smoking.
- To outline how we will raise awareness of the dangers of smoking through the curriculum.
- Support smokers and/or vape users to stop smoking.

3.0 No Smoking and No Vaping Policy

3.1 The Trust defines 'smoking' as all forms of tabaco (or tabaco substitute) consumption, including (but not limited to) the use of cigarettes, pipes, snuff, and e-cigarettes/vaping.

3.2 Smoking is one of the leading causes of ill-health and premature death among adults, and is often a habit which has its seeds sown during childhood through exposure to adult smokers. As such the Trust will seek to use its position to provide positive, smoke-free role models to young people, and educate them as to the dangers of smoking; so as to promote a smoke-free future.

3.3 Smoking of any type is not allowed anywhere within Wessex Learning Trust buildings or grounds (including exits to the site, car parks and in vehicles on the premises). This applies to all staff, parents/guardians, students, visitors, volunteers and contractors; as well as any visits/school trips and out of hours activities. This policy is also in place when school premises are used for purposes other than school related activities (for example where facilities are hired by the community), and the hirer will be informed of this policy and expected to adhere to it. Schools will not provide a designated smoking area within school premises.

3.4 Employees will be informed of this policy by the Headteacher, with new staff informed as part of the induction process. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher or their representative(s) to enforce this policy at all times and to advise employees and ensure that visitors to the site comply with these arrangements. If an employee repeatedly ignores the requirement not to smoke on the premises, the matter may be escalated to a disciplinary procedure.

3.5 Staff and learners are reminded that they continue to represent the Trust and their Academy while outside of work, and as such must be seen to always uphold the organisation's values. They are therefore encouraged to be mindful of where and who may witness them smoking outside of school time. Staff should also be mindful of giving learners conflicting messages about smoking – for instance not teaching a class smelling of smoke or having smoking paraphernalia (inadvertently) on display – for instance in bags or coats.

3.6 Learners are prohibited from smoking or being in possession of smoking paraphernalia while in school, on school activities (such as trips or visits). Any breeches of this will be dealt with in line with the school's Behaviour Policy, and Trust's Drugs Policy.

3.7 The Trust will support staff and learners who wish to stop smoking, for instance through the promotion of NHS Stop Smoking Services. For staff members finding it particularly difficult to adhere to this policy, it may be appropriate to seek assistance through an Occupational Health Advisor or to seek assistance from the Employee Assistance programme – Care First 0800 174319. Pastoral support will be offered to any learner who is struggling with a smoking issue.

3.8 As part of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, the Trust will raise awareness of the dangers of smoking in a sensitive and age-appropriate way with learners throughout their time at our schools. Teaching will be scientifically based, non-judgmental, and encourage learners to make healthy choices. We will support learners to develop strategies to resist 'peer pressure' and staff will give learners space to ask any questions they may have about the issue and do their best to provide accurate and factual answers; passing questions onto senior members of staff where they feel unable to answer themselves.

3.9 Beyond PSHE lessons, staff will always promote healthy behaviours and highlight the risks associated with smoking, where the topic arises in and out of other lessons.

Useful Organisations for Smoking Advice

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7404 0242 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: <http://ash.org.uk>

Childline Smoking Information and Support

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/you-your-body/drugs-alcohol-smoking/smoking/>

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0300 123 1044;

Website: <https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>

SmokeFreeLife Somerset – Somerset smoking advice and support

Website: <https://www.healthysomerset.co.uk/smokefree/>

Smoke Free North Somerset – North Somerset smoking advice and support

Website: <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/adult-social-care-health/health-wellbeing/live-healthier-lifestyle/help-stop-smoking/smokefree-north-somerset>

Quitline – a free national telephone helpline for smokers: 0800 00 22 00

Website: <http://www.quit.org.uk/>